

FINAL SENT TO NMDOT

Official Scenic Historic Marker Program



CPRC meeting: CPRC Approved 6/8/07
Final Approval August 8, 2008

Name of Marker: Cathay Williams, (c 1850–Death Date Unknown)

County: Luna

Review: Original Text/Replacement Marker Revised Text
 Move of Existing Marker New Marker

NMDOT District: District 2

NMDOT Highway: NM 356

Suggested Site for Installation: to be determined

Proposed Text:

Born into slavery, Cathay was liberated in 1861 and worked as a cook for the Union army during the Civil War. In 1866 she enlisted in the U.S. Army as Private William Cathey serving with the Buffalo Soldiers at Fort Cummings and Fort Bayard until 1868. She is the only documented woman to serve as an enlisted soldier in the Regular U.S. Army during the 19th century.

Word Count: 67

Previous Title and Text: N/A

Researcher/author: Dr. Thomas E. Chavez; Clarence Fielder ; Ramona Caplan

Source(s) *Cathy Williams, From Slave to Female Buffalo Soldier*: by Phillip Thomas Tucker. Stackpole Books, 2002. *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of Negro Americans*. by John Hope Franklin. Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1974. *Frontier Women: The Trans-Mississippi West, 1840-1880*. by Julie Roy Jeffrey. Hill and Wang, New York, 1979. Caplan, Ramona L. Beatrice Chauvenet Fellow, Center for Southwest Research, University Libraries, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. Research notes and studies. E-mail, etc.

Text Approved by CPRC on Date: August 8, 2008

CPRC Comments: June 8, 2007

For Referral to: NMHWMI, Dee Beingessner, Dee A., NMDOTGO

revised TC 4/2007 revised TC & KLS 4/2008